Socialist Worker says -

Shift workers work hard and die young:

STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS!

In spite of what management and Union officials might think, workers have fought long and hard for over a century for the right not to work night shifts and the right to a decent family life and social life. The workers of United Technologies are absolutely right to reject the shift option. But the AEEU officials are wrong to say that this means jobs will have to go.

After rejecting the shift option in *three* different votes, it looks as if AEEU members in UTA will again be asked to vote on the issue. The Union leadership is doing management's dirty work, trying to blackmail rank and file workers into accepting shifts. Yet, we all know that if they won on shifts, it wouldn't be long before management would be back looking for more.

That's precisely what happened the workers at Packard Electric in Dublin. They accepted change after change because management threatened closure. In the end, they were being asked to give up their toilet breaks.

The workers at United Technologies have every reason to turn down the shift option. Research shows that shift workers are 40 percent more likely to suffer a heart attack than those working days. The government's Health and Safety Executive admits shift workers suffer sleep problems, higher divorce rates , are involved in more accidents at work and die earlier than other workers.

A study published last year found almost half of all shift workers suffer from stomach or intestinal disorders - TEN times the rate for day workers.

Most of the workers in United Technologies are women. How are the women supposed to organise childcare if they're on shifts? It's difficult enough to organise childcare if you're working days; shift work would be a nightmare.

We know that UTA Europe want to move some of the jobs out of Derry anyway. They're worried out industrial action during the coming pay negotiations. A strike demanding a guarantee of job security NOW, before they have a chance to secure production elsewhere, would soon bring both local and european management to their knees.

The AEEU District Committee says that the jobs saved at Moline/MPE are an example of how the AEEU is committed to saving jobs. If they're saying that UTA workers should follow the example of the Moline workforce and occupy the plant to save the jobs, they're right. Because it was the action of the rank and file AEEU members themselves, not of the Union officials, that saved the jobs at Moline/MPE.

What's needed in United Technologies is not the grovelling carry-on of Adair, but the kind of militancy for which the AEEU used to be known in the past. We need a *fight* to both save the jobs of everyone in United Technologies and to protect the right not to work shifts.

Public Meeting

Support United Technologies workers - no more blackmail!

Speakers: United Technologies worker
Sacked Strand Multiplex worker
Eamonn McCann (chair, Derry Trades Council)

[All speakers in personal capacities]

Thurs. 16th March 8pm Dungloe Bar

Join the Socialists!

All over the world, bosses are trying to force workers to accept lousy pay and working conditions. All over the world, socialists are fighting back. If you want to join that fight, fill in this slip, give it to a *Socialist Worker* seller or send it to: SWM, P.O. Box 1648, Dublin 8.

NAME: _____

Address: _____